

News Release

Faculty Staff Day at U of M Crookston Celebrates "Hats Off to Summer" and Recognizes Service and Achievement

By Itollefts on Tuesday, May 10, 2011

Faculty and staff at the University of Minnesota, Crookston tipped their hats to another successful academic year during Faculty Staff Day on Tuesday, May 10, 2011. Bede Ballroom was filled to capacity as members of the campus community donned hats to coordinate with the theme "Hats off to Summer" to celebrate the accomplishments of faculty and staff over the past academic year.



Chancellor Charles Casey recognized staff and faculty celebrating service milestones including: Patricia Ramstad from the Liberal Arts and Education Department who was recognized for her 45 years of service and Larry Smith from the Northwest Research and Outreach Center for his 40 years of service. Celebrating 35 years of service were Don Cavalier from Career and Counseling Services; Jeff Sinks from Northwest Educational Telecommunication Services (NETS); Val Uttermark from the Registrar's Office, and Patti Tiedemann and John Zak from University Relations.



Several special award presentations highlighted the event. The Distinguished Teaching Award went to Pam Elf, Ph.D., associate professor in the Math, Science, and Technology Department. Gary Willhite, director of residential life, received the Distinguished Civil Service/Bargaining Unit Award, and Tricia Sanders, finance director, received the Distinguished Professional and Administrative (P&A) Award.



The Outstanding Service Learning Faculty Award went to Katy Smith, Ph.D., assistant professor in the Math, Science, and Technology Department and the Outstanding Community Service Award went to Kenneth Johnson, instructor in the Business Department. Closing out the recognition portion of the day were the Builders of Diversity Awards which went to Kim Cousins, student personnel coordinator in the Academic Assistance Center and Peter Phaiah, associate vice chancellor for student affairs.



Corky Miller, an application programmer in Northwest Educational Technology System (NETS) office, was also recognized on his retirement. Jeff Sinks, media resources producer who works closely with Miller hailed him for his "professionalism and competence and for adding great value and depth to their department." Miller has worked in the NETS office for ten years.



Today the University of Minnesota, Crookston delivers 29 bachelor's degree programs, 18 minors, and more than 40 concentrations, including several online degrees, in the areas of agriculture and natural resources; business; liberal arts and education; and math, science and technology. With an enrollment of about 1,400 undergraduates from more than 25 countries and 40 states, the Crookston campus offers a supportive, close-knit atmosphere that leads to a prestigious University of Minnesota degree. "Small Campus. Big Degree." To learn more, visit www.umcrookston.edu.

In the photos: Top right (l to r): John Zak,Val Uttermark, Don Cavalier, Patti Tiedemann, and Jeff Sinks

In the middle at left: Gary Willhite, Tricia Sanders, and Katy Smith. At right, top: Pam Elf, Bottom: Kenneth Johnson

At bottom left: Kim Cousins and Peter Phaiah

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